

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

California Environmental Protection Agency



Air Resources Board

Low Carbon Fuel Standard

***“Pathways for Transportation Biofuels
Derived from Organic Wastes and
Agricultural Residues”***

**California Bioresources Alliance Symposium
Davis, California**

June 3, 2014

Overview of Presentation

- **Background Information on LCFS**
- **ARB Pathways for Transportation Fuels**
 - **Baseline Fuels**
 - **Derived from Organic Wastes and Byproducts**
- **Staff Assessment of Waste-Derived Fuels in the Marketplace**
- **Case Study: Biofuel from Crop Residues**
- **Status of AB 1900: Biomethane Standards for Distribution in the Natural Gas Pipeline**
- **Conclusions**

Background Information

- **LCFS is a Component of AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006**
- **Requires 10 Percent Reduction in the Carbon Intensity (CI) of California's Transportation Fuels by 2020**
- **What is CI? Measures Aggregate Direct and Indirect GHG Emissions Over Lifecycle of Fuel**
 - **Expressed in g CO₂e / MJ**
- **Basis for Regulation: CIs for Diesel and Gasoline Over 2010-2020**
- **Performance-Based Incentives for Development of Low Carbon Fuels**

LCFS Lifecycle Analysis

Fuel's Well-to-Wheels Analysis for Carbon Intensity Determination

- **Direct GHG Emissions Referred to as Well-to-Wheels (WTW) Analysis**
 - **WTW has 2 Components, WTT and TTW**
 - **$WTW = WTT + TTW$**
- **CI is Expressed Per Unit of Fuel Energy (LHV)**
- **Mass Values for All GHG Emissions are Adjusted for Global Warming Potentials (GWP)**
 - **Example: CH_4 Emissions \times 25 GWP = CO_2e**

ARB Pathways for Transportation Fuels

Two Baseline Fuel CIs in 2009 Lookup Table

Fuel	Source	Carbon Intensity (g CO ₂ e / MJ)
CARBOB (Gasoline)	Petroleum Crude	99.18
ULSD (Diesel)	Petroleum Crude	98.03

- **CIs of Petroleum-based Gasoline and Diesel Fuels are Used as Baseline Fuels to Measure Reductions in the CIs of California Transportation Fuels**
- **Transportation Fuels with Lower CI Generate Differential LCFS Credits**
- **Credits can be used to Meet Compliance, Banked, or Traded in the LCFS Market**

ARB Pathways for Transportation Biofuels

AD-based Pathways in Lookup Table

Fuel	Source	Carbon Intensity (g CO₂e / MJ)
CNG (Biomethane)	Landfill Gas	11.26
CNG (Biomethane)	Dairy Digester	13.45
CNG (Biomethane)	Food & Green Waste	-15.29
CNG (Biomethane)	Wastewater Sludge	(Proposed)

Biodiesel and Ethanol Pathways in Lookup Table

Fuel	Source	Carbon Intensity (g CO₂e / MJ)
Biodiesel	Used Cooking Oil	11.76 – 15.84
Renewable Diesel	Tallow	19.65 – 39.33
Ethanol	Byproduct Molasses	21.47 – 46.42

Staff Assessment of Waste-Derived Low Carbon Fuels in the Marketplace

- **Producers of Lower Carbon Transportation Fuels (Especially from Waste or Byproduct Resources) have Potential to Generate LCFS Credits**
 - Small or No Indirect Land Use Change (LUC) Consideration
 - Lifecycle Assessment Credit for Avoided Landfilling / Flaring / or Disposal of Organic Waste, and for Electricity Export
 - Lower Energy Use (Example: Waste Heat Recovery from ICE)
- **Expect Credits to Become More Valuable as Compliance CI for Gasoline and Diesel and Substitutes Becomes More Stringent in Target Year**
 - CI (g CO₂e/MJ) for ULSD in 2014: 96.56 in 2020: 88.23
 - CI (g CO₂e/MJ) for CARBOB in 2014: 97.47 in 2020: 89.06

Staff Assessment of Waste-Derived Low Carbon Fuels in the Marketplace

- **Example: 100 MGD POTW Producing Biomethane (Suggested CI = -26.28 g CO₂e/MJ)**
 - **Model 30% Allocation of 350,000 scf CH₄ / day for Transportation Fuel Use**
 - **Generates 42 Metric Tons of LCFS Credits per Day, and 4,400 RFS2 RINS per Day**
 - **LCFS Credit Trades Valued at \$40 / Metric Ton, and \$0.75 / RIN (Staff Estimate)**
 - **\$1,700 / day (\$615,000 / year) Additional Revenue from LCFS Credits**
 - **\$3,300 / day (\$1,200,000 / year) from RFS2 RINS**

Staff Assessment of Waste-Derived Low Carbon Fuels in the Marketplace

- **Example: 100 MGD POTW Producing Biomethane (Suggested CI = -26.28 g CO₂e/MJ)**
 - **Model Allocation of 350,000 scf CH₄ / day to Transportation Fuel Purposes**
 - **\$ 1,800,000 / year Total Revenues from LCFS Credits and RFS2 RINS**
 - **\$ 500,000 / year Revenue from Product Gas**
 - **\$ 2,300,000 / year Total Revenue**
 - **Comparatively, Projected Total Capital Costs for Biogas Upgrading Estimated to be \$3,500,000***
- * Projected Costs from Unison Solutions / Cornerstone for BioCNG System
- **Suggests CapEx Payback in 18 Months!**

Case Study

Biofuel Production from Crop Residues

- **Commercial Scale Biofuel Production from Cellulosic Crop Residues is a Reality**
- **For Example, Ethanol Production from Enzymatic Conversion of Cellulose in Corn Stover, and Sugarcane Straw / Bagasse**
- **Next Generation Cellulosic Ethanol Projects Under Construction in Brazil, Italy, and USA**
 - **For Example: GranBio in Alagoas, Brazil (Summer 2014)**
 - **20 Million Gallons Ethanol from Straw and Bagasse**
- **Preliminary WTW Indicates CI is “Very Low”**

Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Ethanol Plant Under Construction



Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Sugarcane Crop



Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Ethanol Production from Straw Residue



Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Straw Collection



Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Straw Baling



Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Straw Stock Piling

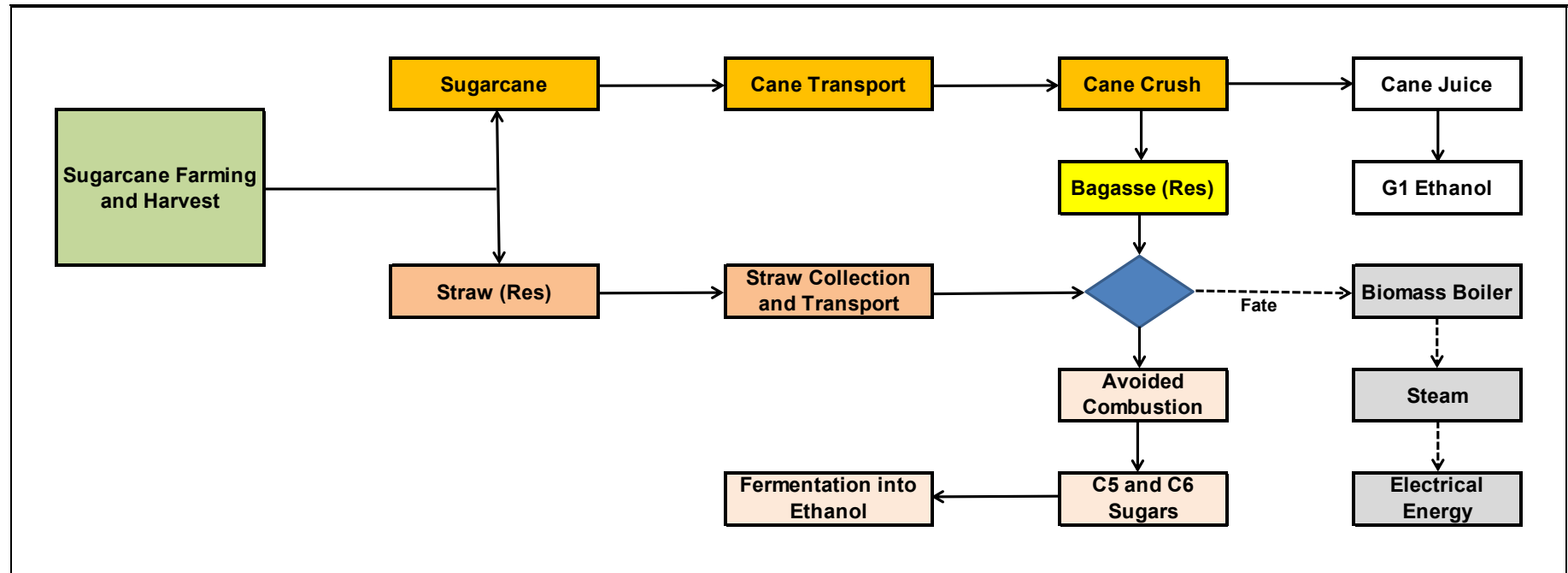


Case Study: GranBio BioFlex Plant Straw Transport to Ethanol Plant



System Boundary Considerations for Cellulosic Ethanol Pathway

LIFECYCLE ASSESSMENT OF CELLULOSIC CROP RESIDUES FOR BIOFUEL PRODUCTION



Status of AB 1900

- **Directed CPUC to Adopt Standards for Constituents of Concern (CoC) in Biomethane Injected into the Natural Gas Pipeline System**
 - **Standards to Protect both Public Health and Pipeline Safety and Integrity**
- **ARB and OEHHA Provided Recommendations on 12 Health-based Constituents from Publicly Available Information**
 - **Recommendations on Testing, Monitoring, and Recordkeeping**
- **CPUC Final Decision Directed Utilities to Modify Tariffs to Reflect Recommendations**

Conclusions

- **Producing a Lower Carbon Transportation Fuel is a Very Attractive Option**
- **Pathways and CIs for Organic Waste-Derived Fuels Available for Use Today**
- **LCFS Provides Additional Value to Developers**
- **LCFS Credits May Concurrently be used with EPA's RFS2 Program RINs**
- **Energy Producers can Contemplate Allocation of Biogas for Transportation Purposes (Example: POTWs and Landfill Operators)**
- **Favorable CIs for Next Generation Biofuels**



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For More Information

- **ARB LINK TO LCFS HOMEPAGE**

- <http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/lcfs.htm>

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